Short supply of power to small scale industries in Tamil Nadu

780. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that electricity is not supplied for 24 hours to the small scale industrial units in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the rural feeder lines in Tamil Nadu are getting power supply for four hours only;

(c) whether the Central Government will give suitable directions to the Tamil Nadu Government to supply electricity for 24 hours to SSI units in rural areas; and

(d) what remedial measures Government are taking to save the SSI units in Tamil Nadu because of non-supply of electricity?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (d) Power supply to various categories of consumers in a State is regulated by the State authorities on the basis of the availability of power. According to the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board twentyfour hours supply is normally being extended to the small scale industrial units in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu, subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. However, during the critical power position in the State from April to June, 1989, four hours power supply each during day and night was extended to this category.

Import of coal from Australia

781. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Government has approached the Central Government for importing coal from Australia; and

(b) if so, what steps the Central Government have taken for the uninterrupted supply of coal to the various projects in Tamil Nadu and especially to the Tuticorin Thermal Power Project?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) A proposal to import 2 lakh tonnes of coal from Australia was received from TNEB in June, 1988.

(b) Steps taken to improve coal supplies to the various power projects of TNEB as also to Tuticorin TPS, include sanction of linkages as per requirement of generation augmentation of supplies from Coal India sources and constant monitoring of coal despatches.

Legal action by share holders for non-receipt of annual acounts or notices of meetings

782. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any legal provision at present which enables a small share holder to take legal action against a company or the concerned Stock Exchange or the Registrar of Companies in the case of non-receipt of annual accounts or notices of meetings from the company of which he is a share holder; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Sections 170 to 173 and 219 of the Companies Act, 1956 provide for the manner, extent and content of the notice to be given for calling a general meeting by a company. Under Section 621 of the Act, a shareholder is entitled to file a complaint in the court of competent jurisdiction against the defaulting company for non-compliance of the aforesaid provisions of law under section 629A and/or section 219(3) of the Act.